

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/607,749

Examiner

Luis Roman

Applicant(s)

DONALDSON ET AL.

Art Unit

2836

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/06/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-19.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Reasons for Allowance

Examiner acknowledges a submission of the amendment filled on 11/06/07. Claims 1-6 & 8-19 have been kept original, claim 7 has been amended and no claims have been cancelled. No new claims were added. It also included remarks/arguments.

Amendments and arguments have overcome rejection

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

Claims 1, 7, 13 & 19: the closest references are: "Precharge Circuit Having Microprocessor Based Firing Angle Control Circuit" Skibinski et al. US Patent 5483142 issued on January 09, 1996 & "Electrical Apparatus Including Interlocking Circuit For ground Fault Sensor" Wilson et al. US Patent 3697810 issued on October 10, 1972.

Skibinski et al.'142 discloses a protection circuit comprising: a control circuit (Col. 3 lines 14-18) for controlling switching of at least one switch (Fig. 3 element 54) of a power transfer device, the at least one switch controlling charging of a reservoir capacitor of the power transfer device across which a load is applied when in use (Fig. 3 element 60); a circuit for detecting a voltage in at least one of the power transfer device or the load, and for sending a signal to the control circuit responsive thereto (Fig. 3 elements 77, 78); and a precharge driver circuit for pre-charging the reservoir capacitor, the precharge driver circuit being enabled by the control circuit responsive to receipt of the signal from the detecting circuit, wherein when enabled, the precharge driver circuit attempts to precharge the reservoir capacitor to a voltage level sufficient for switching of the at least one switch to proceed without damaging the at least one switch (Fig. 3 element 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 71a, 71b, 72, 74, 76, controlled by element 78 when receiving a signal from element 77).

Skibinski et al.'142 does not disclose the detecting circuit being a fault detecting circuit and a floating power transfer device, both requirements of claims 1, 7, 13 & 19.

Wilson et al.'810 discloses a ground fault sensor circuit with a ground fault sensing circuit (Fig. 1 element 32") and the load in a floating condition when the breakers are open (Fig. 1 elements 250A, 250B, 250C, 250N).

The capacitor 60 of Skibinski et al.'142 will be in a floating condition when the breakers 250A, 250B, 250C, 250N of Wilson et al. are open.

There is no motivation to combine them.

As a result for claims 1-19 the allowability resides, at least in part, in the above-described limitations, in combination with the other elements of each of the claims, which has not been disclosed in or rendered obvious by the Prior Art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Luis E. Román whose telephone number is (571) 272 – 5527. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon – Fri from 7:15 AM to 3:45 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus can be reached on (571) 272-2800 x 36. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Luis E. Román
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2836

LR/033106



**ROBERT L. DEBERADINS
PRIMARY EXAMINER**